

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant has received the Final Office Action dated December 26, 2006, in which the Examiner rejected claims 1-11 and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wallach et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,292,905, hereinafter "Wallach").

With this Response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 7, 15, 16, 17 and 18.

I. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

As amended, claim 1 requires "a minimally configured workstation adapted to couple to the file servers and to a client computer; wherein the minimally configured workstation is adapted to cause at least some software that is not permanently stored on the workstation to be temporarily transferred to the minimally configured workstation from the file system via at least one of the file servers when requested by the client computer; and wherein the client computer is adapted to utilize the at least some software temporarily transferred to the minimally configured workstation." Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found in paragraph [0024].

Wallach lacks the minimally configured workstation adapted to cause software not permanently stored on the workstation to be temporarily transferred to the workstation such that the client computer may utilize the transferred software. Wallach merely discloses remapping network resources in a fault tolerant system with redundant data, nowhere disclosing that a workstation may be minimally configured with software, and temporarily transfer (and execute) software to the workstation from the file server when the software is requested by a client computer. The file servers of Wallach are not adapted to transfer software to a minimally configured workstation at the request of a client computer, but merely mirrored redundant data. (See Wallach, Col. 1, ll. 45-67, Col. 2, ll. 1-19; Col. 3, ll. 39-63; Col. 4, ll. 1-31).

No other reference satisfies these deficiencies. For at least these reasons, Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom are believed to be in condition for allowance.

As amended, claim 7 requires “a minimally configured workstation adapted to couple to the file servers and to a client computer, the workstation comprises a storage medium on which control files are permanently stored, but client applications are not permanently stored; wherein the minimally configured workstation is adapted to cause client applications to be temporarily transferred to the minimally configured workstation from the file system via at least one of the file servers when requested by the client computer; and wherein the client computer is adapted to utilize the at least some software temporarily transferred to the minimally configured workstation.” Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found in paragraph [0024].

As discussed above with respect to claim 1, Wallach lacks the minimally configured workstation adapted to cause software not permanently stored on the workstation to be temporarily transferred to the workstation from a file server such that the client computer may utilize the transferred software. Wallach does not disclose a workstation that may be minimally configured with software, and that temporarily transfers (and executes) software to the workstation from the file server when the software is requested by a client computer. In fact, the file servers of Wallach are operable for data mirroring, and Wallach fails to disclose transfer of software to a minimally configured workstation at all.

No other reference satisfies these deficiencies. For at least these reasons, Claim 7 and the claims depending therefrom are believed to be in condition for allowance.

As amended, claim 15 requires “means for storing client applications and data; wherein the means for storing is accessible to the file servers; minimally configured means for retrieving and temporarily transferring the client applications from the means for storing the client applications and data; and means for executing the temporarily transferred client applications as required by a client computer.” Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found in paragraph [0024].

Wallach lacks a minimally configured means for retrieving and temporarily transferring the client applications from the means for storing the client

applications, and also lacks means for executing the temporarily transferred client applications as required by a client computer. As discussed above, the file servers of Wallach are operable for data mirroring, and Wallach fails to disclose temporary transfer of client applications to a means for executing the client applications as required by a client computer.

No other reference satisfies these deficiencies. For at least these reasons, Claim 15 and the claims depending therefrom are believed to be in condition for allowance.

As amended, claim 17 requires “a minimally configured CPU; and a volatile memory coupled to the minimally configured CPU; wherein said CPU requests and temporarily transfers a client application from an external file system via a file server on behalf of a client and executes the client application on behalf of the client.” Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found in paragraph [0024].

Wallach lacks a minimally configured CPU that requests and temporarily transfers a client application (i.e., software) from an external file system via a file server on behalf of a client computer and executes the client application on behalf of the client. The file system disclosed by Wallach merely stores and serves redundant data. Furthermore, nothing disclosed by Wallach indicates that a workstation is minimally configured such that client applications can be temporarily transferred and executed from file system via a file server at the request of a client computer.

No other reference satisfies these deficiencies. For at least these reasons, Claim 17 and the claims depending therefrom are believed to be in condition for allowance.

II. CONCLUSION

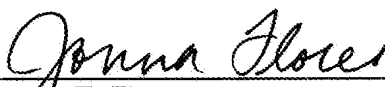
In the course of the foregoing discussions, Applicant may have at times referred to claim limitations in shorthand fashion, or may have focused on a particular claim element. This discussion should not be interpreted to mean that the other limitations can be ignored or dismissed. The claims must be viewed as a whole, and each limitation of the claims must be considered when determining

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the patentability of the claims. Moreover, it should be understood that there may be other distinctions between the claims and the cited art which have yet to be raised, but which may be raised in the future.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



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